

SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
STEWARDSHIP EMPHASIS: GOD'S LOVE COMPELS US
"GOD IS LOVE"
March 4 & 5, 2023



Peace
Lutheran Church
NEENAH, WISCONSIN—LCMS

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PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELLS

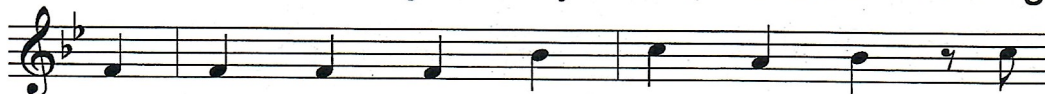
GREETING

P: Peace be with you,

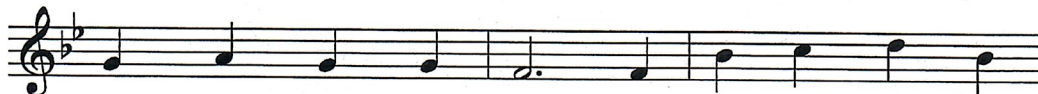
C: And also with you.

OPENING HYMN "Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing"

737



1 Re - joice, my heart, be glad and sing, A
2 He is your trea - sure, He your joy, Your
3 Why spend the day in blank de - spair, In
4 Did not His love and truth and pow'r Guard



cheer - ful trust main - tain; For God, the source of
life and light and Lord, Your coun - sel - or when
rest - less thought the night? On your Cre - a - tor
ev - 'ry child - hood day? And did He not in



ev - 'ry - thing, Your por - tion shall re - main.
doubts an - noy, Your shield and great re - ward.
cast your care; He makes your bur - dens light.
threat - 'ning hour Turn dread - ed ills a - way?

- 5 He only will with patience chide, His rod falls gently down;
And all your sins He casts aside In ocean depths to drown.
- 6 His wisdom never plans in vain Nor falters nor mistakes.
All that His counsels may ordain A blessed ending makes.
- 7 Upon your lips, then, lay your hand, And trust His guiding love;
Then like a rock your peace shall stand Here and in heav'n above.

Text and tune: Public domain

stand

INVOCATION

P: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

CONFESSION

P: In the presence of Almighty God, Whose Word shines the light of grace into our sin-darkened lives, let us confess our sins.
C: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us, forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

LITANY

P: Heavenly Father, we know that You are merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
C: Lord, we thank You for the privilege of being Your stewards. Help us to share Your love.

P: Father, as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is Your steadfast love toward us who fear You.
C: Lord, we thank You for the privilege of being Your stewards. Help us to share Your love.

P: Father, we know that Your steadfast love is from everlasting to everlasting to those who revere You.
C: Lord, we thank You for the privilege of being Your stewards. Help us to share Your love.

All: “Bless the Lord, all His hosts, His ministers, who do His will. Bless the Lord, all His works, in all places of His dominion. Bless the Lord, O my soul!”

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. O God, You see that of ourselves we have no strength. By Your mighty power defend us from all adversities that may happen to the body and from all evil thoughts that may assault and hurt the soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

sit

CHOIR (Sunday) “Still”

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON Lamentations 3:22-32

ESV p.818

²²The steadfast love of the LORD never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; ²³they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. ²⁴“The LORD is my portion,” says my soul, “therefore I will hope in him.” ²⁵The LORD is good to those who wait for him, to the soul who seeks him. ²⁶It is good that one should wait quietly for the salvation of the LORD. ²⁷It is good for a man that he bear the yoke in his youth. ²⁸Let him sit alone in silence when it is laid on him; ²⁹let him put his mouth in the dust— there may yet be hope; ³⁰let him give his cheek to the one who strikes, and let him be filled with insults. ³¹For the Lord will not cast off forever, ³²but, though he cause grief, he will have compassion according to the abundance of his steadfast love;

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

EPISTLE LESSON I John 4:7-21

ESV p.1212

⁷Beloved, let us love one another, for love is from God, and whoever loves has been born of God and knows God. ⁸Anyone who does not love does not know God, because God is love. ⁹In this the love of God was made manifest among us, that God sent his only Son into the world, so that we might live through him. ¹⁰In this is love, not that we have loved God but that he loved us and sent his Son to be the propitiation for our sins. ¹¹Beloved, if God so loved

us, we also ought to love one another. ¹²No one has ever seen God; if we love one another, God abides in us and his love is perfected in us.

¹³By this we know that we abide in him and he in us, because he has given us of his Spirit. ¹⁴And we have seen and testify that the Father has sent his Son to be the Savior of the world. ¹⁵Whoever confesses that Jesus is the Son of God, God abides in him, and he in God. ¹⁶So we have come to know and to believe the love that God has for us. God is love, and whoever abides in love abides in God, and God abides in him. ¹⁷By this is love perfected with us, so that we may have confidence for the day of judgment, because as he is so also are we in this world. ¹⁸There is no fear in love, but perfect love casts out fear. For fear has to do with punishment, and whoever fears has not been perfected in love. ¹⁹We love because he first loved us. ²⁰If anyone says, "I love God," and hates his brother, he is a liar; for he who does not love his brother whom he has seen cannot love God whom he has not seen. ²¹And this commandment we have from him: whoever loves God must also love his brother.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

stand

GOSPEL LESSON

John 11:28-37

ESV p.1067

²⁸When she had said this, she went and called her sister Mary, saying in private, "The Teacher is here and is calling for you." ²⁹And when she heard it, she rose quickly and went to him. ³⁰Now Jesus had not yet come into the village, but was still in the place where Martha had met him. ³¹When the Jews who were with her in the house, consoling her, saw Mary rise quickly and go out, they followed her, supposing that she was going to the tomb to weep there. ³²Now when Mary came to where Jesus was and saw him, she fell at his feet, saying to him, "Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died." ³³When Jesus saw her weeping, and the Jews who had come with her also weeping, he was deeply moved in his spirit and greatly troubled. ³⁴And he said, "Where have you laid him?" They said to him, "Lord, come and see." ³⁵Jesus wept. ³⁶So the Jews said, "See how he loved him!" ³⁷But some of them said, "Could not he who opened the eyes of the blind man also have kept this man from dying?"

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God

sit

HYMN "Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me" LSB 683 (Tune: 349)

- 1 Jesus, Thy boundless love to me
No thought can reach, no tongue declare;
Unite my thankful heart to
Thee, And reign without a rival there!
Thine wholly, Thine alone I am;
Be Thou alone my constant flame.
- 2 O grant that nothing in my soul
May dwell, but Thy pure love alone;
Oh, may Thy love possess me whole,
My joy, my treasure, and my crown!
All coldness from my heart remove;
My ev'ry act, word, thought be love.
- 3 This love unwearied I pursue
And dauntlessly to Thee aspire.
Oh, may Thy love my hope renew,
Burn in my soul like heav'nly fire!
And day and night, be all my care
To guard this sacred treasure there.
- 4 In suff'ring be Thy love my peace,
In weakness be Thy love my pow'r;
And when the storms of life shall cease,
O Jesus, in that final hour,
Be Thou my rod and staff and guide,
And draw me safely to Thy side!

Text: Public domain

SERMON "God is Love" I John 4:16

stand

PROFESSION OF FAITH The Nicene Creed

ALL: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, light of light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of

the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, Whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic church, I acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

sit

A WORD FROM THE STEWARDSHIP BOARD

PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING

stand

OFFERTORY "We Give Thee But Thine Own" LSB 781 st. 1, 2 & 6



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive
6 And we be - lieve Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:



All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!
What - e'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it un - to Thee.

Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P: Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross. Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, so that we be renewed as Your sons and daughters. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

ALL: Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name; Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation; but deliver us from evil; For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD (spoken by the pastor)

THE PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

"Grace Alone"	SGBK 23
"The Old Rugged Cross"	SGBK 81
"Love Lifted Me"	SGBK 51
"The Lord Hath Helped Me Hitherto"	SGBK 80

stand

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P: Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the Day of His coming, we may, together, with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BENEDICTION

P: May God go before you to lead you, behind you to protect you, beneath you to uphold you. May God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit; go with you to bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN OF DEPARTURE "Great Is Thy Faithfulness" LSB 809



1 Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther;
 2 Sum - mer and win - ter and spring - time and har - vest,
 3 Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee.
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not: Thy com - pas - sions, they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been, Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness! Great is Thy faith - ful - ness!



Morn - ing by morn - ing new mer - cies I see;



All I have need - ed Thy hand hath pro - vid - ed;



Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, Lord, un - to me!

Text: Public domain
 Tune: Public domain

THE SENDING

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

C: Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE(S)

MIDWEEK LENTEN, HOLY WEEK, AND EASTER SERVICES 2023
OVERALL THEME: "PROMISED TREASURES"

Fellowship Suppers at 6:00 P.M.

MIDWEEK LENT 2: Wednesday, March 8 at 7:00 P.M.

THEME: "Water Gives You Life"

MIDWEEK LENT 3: Wednesday, March 15 at 7:00 P.M.

THEME: "Light Shinning in the Darkness"

MIDWEEK LENT 4: Wednesday, March 22 at 7:00 P.M.

THEME: "Bread of Life"

MIDWEEK LENT 5: Wednesday, March 29 at 7:00 P.M.

THEME: "Palms and Victory"

MAUNDY THURSDAY: Thursday, April 6 at 7:00 P.M. **

THEME: "Water and Blood"

GOOD FRIDAY: Friday, April 7 at 7:30 P.M.

THEME: "The Old, Rugged, Wooden Cross"

EASTER SATURDAY – NO WORSHIP SERVICE

EASTER SUNDAY – SUNRISE: Sunday, April 9 at 6:30 A.M. **

THEME: "The Oil of Joy and Gladness"

EASTER SUNDAY – FESTIVAL: Sunday, April 9 at 9:00 A.M. **

THEME: "Welcome to the Promised Land of Milk and Honey"

Holy Communion is being offered **

Welcome to Peace in the name of the Risen Savior!

We request that visitors register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. We ask that you share your name and address so that we can recognize your visit with us. All members are requested to register by using the Communication cards found in the pew card holders. Members, please indicate all family members present and those who took communion, so that the Pastor and Elders can be spiritually accountable for you and your family.

Are your cell phones turned off? Cell phones are indeed a great convenience in life these days. However, please, out of courtesy, silence cell phones during the worship service.

Thank you!

Hearing assist devices and large print bulletins are available for those who may need them. Please see an Usher or the Elder who will be happy to assist you.

A Mother's Room is available for parents of young children if the need arises. The Mother's Room in the west hallway. The worship service is able to be heard in the Mother's Room.



Today we celebrate the Lord's Supper, Holy Communion

Scripture teaches that Holy Communion is a sacred act, established by Christ Himself and is given to His Church. As members of **The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod**, we hold the doctrine of the Real Presence, in with and under; meaning that Jesus gives His Body and Blood

with the bread and wine, as He Himself says, *"This is my body... This is my blood... for the forgiveness of sins."* (Matthew 26:26ff)

The Holy Scriptures also teach us to receive this meal in a way that is responsible and healthy. As overseer, St. Paul wrote- *"let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment upon himself"* (1 Cor. 11:28-29). Out of genuine care for God's people we ask that those (1) who have not been baptized and instructed in the faith or (2) who come from another church body, not in altar or pulpit fellowship with us, refrain from receiving Holy Communion.

For those preparing to receive Holy Communion, Luther encourages us to ask ourselves these questions:

Do I repent of my sins, desiring to turn away from them, back to the Lord?

Do I believe Jesus died and rose for me and gives me His Body and Blood this day "for the forgiveness of sins"?

Do I intend to use this means of grace to change my life, following His will and way?

We ask that all who receive the Lord's Supper fill out a "Care Card" and place it in the offering plate. Please note that reduced-alcoholic white wine is available in the center cups of the communion tray.

**Peace Lutheran Church
The Lutheran Church Missouri Synod**

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Josiah Fitch, Associate Pastor
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WORSHIP SERVICES:

Holy Communion Celebrated at all Services
Saturday 5:00 p.m.

Sunday 9:00a.m.

Sunday Bible Study 10:30 a.m.

Sunday School (Sept. –May) 10:30 a.m.

Website: www.peaceneenah.com

Youtube: Peace Neenah

